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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/571,467	03/13/2006	Autsushi Misawa	P29482	6601
7055 7590 03/30/2009 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 ROLAND CLARKE PLACE RESTON, VA 20191				
EXAMINER				
LEE, MICHAEL				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2622				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
03/30/2009		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

gbpatent@gbpatent.com

pto@gbpatent.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/571,467

Applicant(s)

MISAWA ET AL.

Examiner

M. Lee

Art Unit

2622

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 January 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3 and 9-11 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2, 4-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/CDC)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 2, 4-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Horton et al. (4,672,687) in view of Kato (7,136,618).

Regarding claim 1, Horton discloses a television receiver (Figure 3) showing a first and second input lines (202, 204), a first and second output lines (232, 234), a first and second amplifiers (206, 208), branching units (210, 212), relay switches (214, 216), and a power supply control means (col. 4, lines 3-8). However, Horton does not specify that the power supply to the unused amplifier is turned off. Kato, from the similar field of endeavor, teaches that the power supply to the LNA of a satellite receiver is turned off in order to reduce power consumption. Hence, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was made to include the power control feature of Kato into Horton so that the power consumption rate could be reduced. In addition, Horton does not disclose the current stabilizing circuit as claimed. The examiner takes Official Notice that the current stabilizing circuit is well known in the art. It stabilizes the current in an amplifier and hence a stabilized output. Hence, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention

was made to include a current stabilizing circuit into Horton so that the current could be stabilized.

Regarding claim 2, see relays 214 and 216.

Regarding claim 4, Horton does not show the active current stabilizing circuit as claimed. In any event, the examiner takes Official Notice that using an active current stabilizing circuit in an amplifier is well known in the art because it stabilizes the signal output from the amplifier. Hence, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was made to include an active current stabilizing circuit into the LNAs of Horton to perform the well known functions as claimed.

Regarding claim 5, since the power supply is provided to the LNAs from the receiver through the coaxial cables and the relays, the switching operation of the relays also control the power to the LNAs.

Regarding claim 6, see rejection to claim 4.

Regarding claim 7, in addition rejection to claim 4, the examiner also takes Official Notice that the claimed transistor and the current stabilizing circuit are well known in the art.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 4, 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claims 4, 6, 7, it is not clear how the current stabilizing circuit different from the one in claim 8.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1, 3, 9, 10 and 11 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 1/5/09 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that claim 8 as amended without including the features of intervening claims 2 and 5-7 are allowable over prior art of record. The examiner disagrees. The current stabilizing circuit in claim 8 has no clear structural tie with rest of the claimed invention. The term "associated" used in the claim trying to define the relationship in between the current stabilizing circuit and the amplifier is broad. It does not clearly define how they are associated with each other. Based on this broad term, the claim is rejected with the prior art of record and examiner's Official Notice taken.

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to M. Lee whose telephone number 571-272-7349. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 9 to 6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sinh Tran, can be reached on 571-272-7564. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/M. Lee/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2622

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Art Unit: 2622

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